

3 client devices, each of the packets having at least a part
4 of a layer 2 header replaced with a unique bit string, the
5 method comprising:

- 6 a) determining whether or not the packet belongs to
7 the group of client devices using at least a portion
8 of at least one of the unique bit string; and
9 b) if it is determined that the packet does belong to
10 the group of client devices, then

- 11 i) copying the packet to generate a duplicate
12 packet, and
13 ii) forwarding the duplicate packet to a
14 monitoring facility, wherein the monitoring
15 facility monitors at least one of (A) service
16 provided to a group of customers and (B)
17 security.
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1 15. (TWICE AMENDED) An apparatus for monitoring packets
2 sourced from a group of client devices defining a subset of
3 client devices, each of the packets having at least a part
4 of a layer 2 header replaced with a unique bit string, the
5 apparatus comprising:

- 6 a) a monitoring port for accepting packets of the
7 group of client devices to be monitored;
8 b) means determining whether or not an accepted
9 packet belongs to the group of client devices using at
10 least a portion of the unique bit string; and
11 c) means for
12 i) copying the accepted packet to generate a
13 duplicate packet, and
14 ii) forwarding the duplicate packet to the
15 monitoring port so that at least one of (A)
16 service to a group of customers and (B) security,